

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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Action

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FROM: Copenhagen

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 333, October 29, 4 p.m.

ACTION DEPARTMENT 333, INFORMATION PARIS TOP SECRET

PARIS FOR EUCOM FOR POLAD.

Reference: SEGAT Circular 744; DEPTELS 256 and 259.

I called on Foreign Minister Haekkerup today and carried out instructions REFTELS. Foreign Minister expressed great satisfaction and admiration manner in which Cuban situation has been handled

He described President's posture as "firm and just with exactly right amount of restraint". Said developments so far indicate Soviets will pull back when confronted with firmness and unity. Thought Soviet agreement inspection Cuban sites significant because Russian troops involved, even though inspection not on Soviet territory, and this augurs well for future of disarmament negotiations.

Haekkerup of opinion Soviet backdown will hurt Castro and recalled Cuban Charge told him October 25 Cubans would "fight to last man". Said Castro bound to be disillusioned when Cuba brought to verge of war in service Soviet rather than Cuban interests. Subsequent Soviet decision pull rug from under Castro will make Cubans skeptical of use to which Soviets putting their country.

In reply Haekkerup questions concerning probable future developments I expressed guarded optimism, pointing out we have had too many experiences with Russians to trust them implicitly to carry out agreements. I also expressed opinion US quarantine and reconnaissance would continue pending abolition bases, citing President's reply to Khrushchev/

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-2- 333, October 29, 4 p.m., from Copenhagen

to Khrushchev letter.

Foreign Minister yesterday issued following public statement, unnecessary words omitted:

"Very serious situation Cuba which worried world now seems to have taken fortunate turn.

" In statement issued by Minister-President Khrushchev this afternoon he has mentioned decision of Soviet Union abandon rocket bases in Cuba.

"American President stated he considers Soviet decision important and constructive contribution to peace. Contact existing in recent days between US and Soviet Union thus seems to have created basis for solution Cuba conflict. It is my hope this expectation will prove justified and coming period will see this problem brought to final decision in peace.

"I hope that fortunate solution this matter may create such an improvement of atmosphere in major political negotiations that possibilities will exist for relaxation and progress in disarmament negotiations."

Soviet and Polish Ambassadors called on Foreign Minister October 25 at their request but nature discussions not yet known.

Demonstrations conducted in front of Embassy by "Cuba Committee" October 23, 24 and 25, participants appearing be mostly of student age and known to include young communists and members Socialist Peoples Party. Same groups organized mass meeting Copenhagen City Hall Square October 24 attended by estimated 800-1000 persons. Largest demonstration at Embassy involving 300-400 was night of October 24, during which one policeman reported suffer head injury requiring hospitalization. On October 25 police wearing steel helmets blocked off entire block fronting Embassy. No property damage involved. Danish Folketing scheduled debate Cuban situation at Wednesday session.

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